



AT MITCHELL HAMLINE SCHOOL OF LAW

protect. prevent. prosecute. remember.

www.worldwithoutgenocide.org

March 1, 2023

Dear Chair Klevorn and members of the Minnesota State and Local Government Policy and Finance Committee,

World Without Genocide strongly supports the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) and urges you to vote in favor of HF 173 and HF 197. We believe that the ERA is an essential step towards securing women's rights and guaranteeing their equal treatment under the law.

Women in the US have been struggling for decades to achieve full equality in various areas, including legal, economic, social, civil, and political spheres. Women earn less than men for the same work and face high risk of harassment, threats, assault, and sexual violence. Title 9, which protects women from discrimination and violence on college campuses, is under threat. Women who experience sexual assault are often not treated fairly or given the support to seek justice. Thousands of rape kits go untested, and many perpetrators of violence against women act with impunity. In addition, women continue to be underrepresented on the bench, in the boardrooms, in business, and in Congress.

Furthermore, the ERA for Minnesota would guarantee equal rights permanently, regardless of federal actions. This is why half of all states in the US have some form of equal rights amendment in their constitutions. It is time for Minnesota to join them.

Women's rights are human rights, and human rights are women's rights.

Thank you for your support,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen J. Kennedy". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ellen J. Kennedy, Ph.D., Executive Director